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THE CLERGYMAN's CAUTION TO THE FREEHOLDERS OF GREAT-BRITAIN.

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THE Clergyman's Caution TO THE Freeholders of *Great-Britain.*

I Have always thought it inconsistent with the Character and Duty of a Clergyman to meddle with Politics in the Pulpit; and, in pursuance of that Opinion, have ever declin'd to do it; unless upon those extraordinary Days, which by public Authority are appointed for us to express to God Almighty, and each other, our Abhorrence of Treason and Rebellion, and our sincere Allegiance to our King and Constitution in Church and State: Which, upon the 5th of *November*, the 30th of *January*, the 29th of *May*, and the 1st of *August*, we are in a more especial Manner call'd upon to do.

But yet, whenever the true Interest of my Country seem'd to be in Danger, from those two great and only Enemies it ever had to combat since my Knowledge of the World, Popery and Arbitrary Power; as a Freeman and a Protestant, I always thought my self oblig'd to oppose both, in the most open and effectual Manner that I could think of.

This I did upon my first coming abroad into the World from the University, toward the latter end of the Queen's Time; when I found the late Duke of *Ormond*, the late Lord *Bolinbroke*, with several other Persons of Distinction, [some of whom, with them, fled over to their Master, and some ventur'd to continue among us] tho' intrusted with the Administration of the Government, endeavouring with all their Might to bring in the Pretender, to the utter Subversion of our Religion and Liberties. For tho' I had been so unfortunate as to be admitted for my Education into a College the most pregnant with Jacobitism and Tyrannical Principles of any in both Universities; yet the Moment I launch'd forth into the World, and began to reflect upon the Blessings of Liberty, and the Purity of the Church of *England* (according to my best Reason, far exceeding all other Churches upon Earth) both which, at that time, began so visibly to ebb, and to be, just as it were, ready to be swallow'd up by the Jaws of their sworn and implacable Enemies; I concluded it was high time to look about me, and to exert my self in that Character, which I had rather die than lose, of being a Lover of my Country and Religion, above all other things in the World. Accordingly I did so, in the most expedient Method I could think of. What Success it had, in animating the drooping Spirits of those who were like to be my Fellow-Sufferers in the Cause of expiring Liberty, I shall not be so vain as to mention. The gracious Providence of God put an End to all our Fears in that Respect, soon after, by placing his Majesty King *George* upon the Throne.

Ever

Ever ſince that time, our King has had ſufficient Power in his own Hands, with the Concurrence of an honeſt and well-affected Parliament, to defend the Liberty, Property and Religion of all his loving Subjects, to maintain his own juſt Right, and to keep under the buſy indefatigable Agents of the Popiſh Faction. Notwithſtanding their open Rebellions, and conſtant Underminings by wicked Lies and Inventions, my Heart has, ever ſince that time, been entirely at Eaſe; as being convinc'd of the King's Steadineſs and Reſolution, the Vigilance and Fidelity of his Miniſtry, and the conſtant uninterrupted Adherence of his Parliament to ſuch Meaſures as were moſt conducive to over-awe theſe obſtinate irreclaimable Rebels. 'Twas upon this Account, that I felt an inexpreſſible Satisfaction, upon the paſſing the Septennial Bill; which gave me, as it were, an Inſurance upon my Religion and Liberty for ſo many Years longer. Not, but that I ſaw at the ſame time how extraordinary a Method of proceeding this was, and what dreadful Apprehenſions it would have given me in another Reign, and another Sett of Members. But I conſider'd that the Body of the Nation was, in this Caſe, like the Body of a Man; to whom, when he is in perfect Health, Phyſic is loathſome, and the Loſs of many Ounces of Blood ſhocking; but when, in a dangerous Fit of Sickneſs, the Phyſician judges either of theſe neceſſary, and accordingly preſcribes them, neither the Loathſomeneſs of the one, nor the Terror of the other, are any Obſtruction to the Patient's ſubmitting to undergo them. His Health, his Life is at Stake, and he ought readily and chearfully to continue ſuch a Courſe of Medicines, as, if he were perfectly ſound and well, he would abſolutely reject. Such was our Caſe upon the paſſing the Septennial Act. We had been invaded by the Pretender and his Aſſo-

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ciates from Abroad; and a Rebellion had been fomented, and was actually begun by his *Popish* and *Jacobitish* Adherents at home. A great Part of the Nation was infatuated, by the Delusions of wicked Men, to wish well to and almost openly espouse this horrid Conspiracy; and seem'd ready to sacrifice their Religion and Liberties, to that unaccountable Discontent, with which the Enemies of our Constitution had inspir'd them. Was not the State of the Nation, at such a Time, in a desperate Condition? and did it not call aloud for some extraordinary Remedy? But, bad as our Condition was, as long as the King had so faithful and so well-affected a Parliament to stand by him, all was safe and secure. Our greatest Danger was yet to come; the three Years for which that Parliament was elected were drawing to a Conclusion; our Enemies depended upon a new one's being to be chosen; they knew what a Concourse the Business of Elections would draw together in every Part of the Land; they had heated the Heads of the unthinking ignorant Multitude, with their own pernicious Principles, and made no Question of finding their Account in it. What now could our gracious King, his wise, his great, his able and faithful Council, have devis'd more effectually proper for obviating such a Difficulty, than the Method they took, of continuing that same Parliament for four Years longer? Were a new one to have been elected, could the Friends to Liberty and the Protestant Succession have desir'd a better? I am sure they had not the least Reason to expect it: and therefore sure they could never desire it. No: it was the Enemies of our Constitution in Church and State, the Friends of Popery and the Pretender, the Promoters of Anarchy and Confusion (for all these, meaning the same thing in the main, join together) who, at that time,

time, hop'd, or had reason to hope, for a new Parliament. Their wishing for it, if that had been all, was a sufficient Cause for all true Protestants implicitly to be against it: Since it is not consistent with the Principles of Papists and *Jacobites*, to wish any thing which is for the Interest of those who love Liberty, King *George*, and the Church of *England* as by Law establish'd. So that there cannot possibly be a stronger Argument made in Defence of any one Proposition in the World, than the Legislature had, to support their passing the Septennial Bill.

But now, those four Years being also elaps'd, and the cursed Spirit of *Jacobitism*, however bad enough still, being not quite so flagrant as it was; the King and his Parliament, to shew their great Regard and Tenderness for the Temper of our Constitution, have ventur'd to part; and, out of their great Veneration for Liberty, are resolv'd to run the Risque of a new Election. I cannot but think so wise and penetrating a Ministry as his Majesty at present makes Use of, have so consulted the Genius and Disposition of the People, as to be sure a Majority of *Jacobites* will not be return'd; before they could consent to part with such strenuous Assertors of Liberty and the Protestant Religion, as the greatest Part of the last Representatives shew'd themselves to be. For my Part, I cannot help owning that I shall suffer a great Share of Uneasiness till the Returns are made, and I can discover a Majority of such honest trusty Protestants as we may depend upon for the Guardianship and Preservation of our Religion and Liberties; such as will firmly adhere to the Interest of our King, and take all Opportunities of crushing and subduing that impious Faction which now again begins to revive among us, in Favour of Popery and the Pretender. For behold! no sooner is the Parliament dissolv'd,

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but a Number of Pamphlets and ſcurrilous Libels, of various Sorts, are publiſh'd and induſtriouſly diſpers'd abroad to poiſon the Minds of his Majeſty's well affected Subjects. Various are they in their Appearances, but all of the ſame Nature; all tending to corrupt and enſnare the Hearts of thoſe honeſt Proteſtants who have a true Love for their Religion, their King and their Country, and abhor Popery, Slavery and the Pretender. The *Jacobites* are ſenſible, that as long as true Proteſtants hold firmly together, and join in their own and King *George*'s Intereſt, nothing can ever hurt them: And therefore their Play is to raiſe Jealouſies and foment Diviſions all over the Nation; that where their deſtructive Principles cannot take Place, they may weaken the Proteſtant Intereſt by malicious Scandal and falſe Suggeſtions. That which I fear will do no little Miſchief of this Kind, are ſeveral Papers which are publiſh'd Weekly, and ſent down into every Corner of the Nation: Such as *Miſt*'s, the *Freeholder*'s and the *London* Journal; all full of Invectives and Inſinuations againſt the Government and the late Parliament, and conſequently calculated for the Promotion of the Pretender's Intereſt.

The firſt of theſe, has all along from the Beginning ſufficiently ſhewn his Principles, and the Cauſe for which he writes. He has been a Martyr for it, and has ſtood confeſt upon the Pillory. I ſhall therefore ſay nothing of him, ſince he is unqueſtion'd as to the Point I am ſpeaking of.

I take the ſecond to be ſomewhat a more dangerous Enemy, becauſe not yet ſo well known. The *Freeholder*'s Journaliſt, (as he impudently ſtiles himſelf, becauſe were his Principles to prevail no Man's Freehold could be ſecure a Moment) hangs out falſe Colours, and fights, under the Banner of Liberty, againſt Liberty itſelf. Becauſe the Government,

vernment, to defend itſelf againſt their continued treaſonable Attempts, has been oblig'd to uſe extraordinary Methods, ſuch as in a State of Peace and Tranquility would perhaps have been ſurprizing, theſe Wretches cry out, Oh! have a care of your Liberteis! I can't help ſmiling, however ſerious the Subject is, at ſuch a bare-fac'd Impoſition as this: It puts me in Mind of the Artifices us'd by thoſe Gentlemen, who, in their Infancy, have learn'd the Slight of Hand in *Newgate*; who, in the Midſt of a Crowd, bid People have a Care of their Pockets, when themſelves are the only Perſons from whom they are in Danger. When a *Jacobite* talks of Liberty, we may ſafely conclude that he means ſomething elſe; for, did he truly know what Liberty meant, he would ceaſe to be a *Jacobite*. What is it that has oblig'd the King and Parliament to uſe thoſe extraordinary Methods (*viz.*) of ſuſpending the *Habeas Corpus* Act, of bringing on the Septennial Bill, *&c.* but the Preſervation of our Religion, Lives and Liberties? *Popery* and *Jacobitiſm* attack'd us Hand in Hand, and might poſſibly have ſucceeded and ruin'd us for ever, if the foreſaid Precautions had not been us'd. Who then can have any Reaſon no exclaim againſt them, but *Popery* and *Jacobitiſm*? Theſe only were defeated, theſe only were diſappointed in their curſed Deſigns againſt us, and theſe only can have true Cauſe to repine and murmur at the Methods that were taken to prevent their wicked Machinations. 'Tis not therefore the Infringement of Liberty, but the having defended it, that provokes the Rage of *Jacobites*: They have been diſappointed by the vigorous Efforts and ſteady Reſolutions of the late Parliament, and therefore can never forgive them: And, for this Reaſon it is that *Jacobite* Pamphlets and infamous Libels ſwarm all the Kingdom over, to make the Conduct of that

Parliament odious in the Eyes of the People, which has been ſo ſucceſsful in protecting all the King's true Proteſtant Subjects from the direful Inundations of *Popery and Arbitrary Power*.

Therefore, in giving this Warning to my Countrymen and Fellow Subjects, I don't write to any of thoſe who have already engag'd themſelves in the Intereſt of the Pretender; theſe, I know, will only curſe me for my Advice, and endeavour to ridicule and ſneer at all Attempts of this kind. But, as I am thoroughly convinc'd how much the Proteſtant Intereſt lies at Stake in the enſuing Elections, I earneſtly intreat all thoſe who have it at Heart, who love Liberty and the Church of *England*, and would avoid *Popery* and Slavery, to conſider well whom they chuſe for their Repreſentatives. For he that is a *Jacobite* in his Heart, and inclines to the Pretender's Intereſt, notwithſtanding he may at preſent appear to be a very good Churchman and a good Proteſtant, yet when he comes to join with Papiſts (as all *Jacobites* are always ready to do) in bringing in the Pretender, what will become of his Church and his Religion then! he muſt either reſolve to fall in with the Tyde and renounce his Faith, or tamely ſubmit to be burnt at a Stake in *Smithfield*.

As I make no Queſtion but all my true Proteſtant Countrymen abhor the Thoughts of aiding or aſſiſting Men of *Jacobite* Principles; all that I am concern'd for, is leſt they ſhould be impos'd upon by theſe Wolves appearing in Sheep's Cloathing; who to cover their wicked Deſigns and conceal their Principles, will not fail to raiſe new Diſtinctions among us, and by this means caſt a Miſt before our Eyes, that we may not perceive our true Intereſts. They tell us that *Whig* and *Tory* muſt now be laid aſide, and that the only Diſtinction which ought to remain is that of *Court* and *Country*.

try. Who are they that tell us ſo? The *Jacobites.* But, God forbid, they ſhould find their Account in it! Whom have the Country to protect them from Popery and the Pretender, but the Court? From whom can the Court be enabled to protect the Country, but from the Country? from the honeſt Proteſtant freeborn *Britons.* And ſhall the Country be taught to look upon the Court as its Enemy? And ſhall the Court want the Aſſiſtance and ready Concurrence of the Country? I ſay again, God forbid! This indeed is what the *Jacobite* Party is labouring hard to bring about; This is what the Pretender and his Friends are wiſhing and looking out for. Shall we then be ſeduc'd by ſuch wicked Deſigns to forſake the Intereſt of King *George* and his Friends? And ſhall we at laſt join with the Pretender, and make him an Offering of our Liberty and our Religion? thoſe invaluable Bleſſings for which our Fathers ſacrific'd ſo much Blood and Treaſure, and were determin'd to loſe their Lives rather than part with them. My dear Countrymen! conſider what you do; and don't betray your ſelves and Families into the Hands of *Jacobites*, by chuſing ſuch for your Repreſentatives. Now you may depend upon it, that all thoſe are *Jacobites*, or the Friends of *Jacobites*, who oppoſe the Intereſt of King *George*, and find Fault with the Meaſures his Miniſtry and Parliament have hitherto taken, to ſupport and keep him upon the Throne. There is no Medium or middle Way to be choſen in this Caſe. He that is againſt King *George* and his Miniſtry, muſt be for the Pretender, whether he deſigns it or not. For, as the preſent Miniſtry is, and a Majority of the late Parliament was, unqueſtionably oppoſite to Popery and Arbitrary Power; ſo they that oppoſe the Meaſures of this Miniſtry, or find Fault with thoſe of the late Parliament, do in Effect oppoſe King *George*,

put our Liberty and Religion in Danger, and aſſiſt the Pretender and his Adherents.

Every Freeholder in *Great-Britain*, without Doubt, has a Right, at ſuch a Time as this, to inquire into the Merits of every Candidate that ſtands to be choſen; and is oblig'd in Conſcience to make Choice of ſuch only as are moſt likely to protect him in his Liberty and Property and Religion. But it is impoſſible that a ſenſible honeſt Proteſtant can be ſo far blinded as to think a *Jacobite* capable of this. He may as well truſt his Sheep to the Care of a Wolf, or ſet a Kite to protect his Pidgeons. Neither are any of thoſe more fit, who, by being diſappointed in their own ſelfiſh Views, are become Enemies to the King and the Court; and, to reek their impious Revenge, join with the Friends and Abettors of the Pretender. Conſider, I beſeech you, my good Countrymen; and if you love your King, from whom only we are to look for Protection from Popery and Slavery; if you love your ſelves, your Wives and Children; reſolve rather to die than give your Votes for thoſe who are Enemies to that King, that Liberty, that Religion which you love; and, without which, you would ſoon be as miſerable as the vileſt Slaves upon Earth. Let not the falſe flattering Speeches delude you, of thoſe who would convince you of the ill Conduct of the late Parliament; a Topic, the *Jacobites* have been long preparing themſelves to inlarge upon. King *George* has hitherto had a Parliament to his and our Satisfaction, but to their Remorſe and Confuſion. They dread nothing ſo much as his having ſuch another; and therefore are at Work, one and all, to oppoſe and hinder it. The horrid Lies and Scandals which are propagated upon this occaſion ſtrike me with Horrour: Not at their propagating of them; for what elſe can be expected from *Jacobites?* But leaſt ſome well-

well-meaning Proteſtant ſhould be ſo unwary as to be deluded by them, and be induc'd hereby to think ill of that King and Government, under which alone his Life and Fortune can be ſafe. Therefore, for the Good of ſuch my Fellow Subjects as are willing to open their Eyes to Truth, and would not, knowingly, join themſelves with the Enemies of their Country, I will, by the Bleſſing of God, endeavour to point out to them ſome of the moſt notorious Calumnies which are at preſent ſpread abroad by the Pretender's Adherents to hurt and deſtroy the Proteſtant Intereſt, and diſcover them, beyond all Contradiction, to be *Jacobite* Lies.

In the firſt Place, it is ſuggeſted by the Author of the * *Freeholder*'s Journal, *that there is Danger from the King's having it in his Power to influence Elections.* Danger, of what? Not of his influencing ſo as to get *Jacobites* elected, I hope; and then all will be well enough. No, but, ſays he, *'tis in the King's Power to appoint Sheriffs, and 'tis in the Sheriff's Power to make ſuch Returns as the Miniſtry pleaſes.* I wiſh to God it were ſo at preſent; I ſhould be out of Pain, and ſecure that not one *Jacobite* would be return'd. This Wretch thinks it a Grievance that the King ſhould have the Appointment of the Sheriffs. By whom would he have them appointed? Not by any of the King's Friends to be ſure; for that would be the ſame Thing. *Ergo*, by the Friends of the Pretender. He that is not for King *George*, is againſt him: and he that is againſt him, at this Juncture, muſt make for the Pretender's Intereſt. The Office of a Sheriff is an Office full of Expence and Trouble, and upon that Account declin'd as much as poſſible: Happy is the Man that hath Intereſt enough to get

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get excus'd from it. But, at ſuch a *Criſis* as this, it would have been ſtrange if the King had excus'd even thoſe who are his beſt Friends from the Fatigue of that Office. It ought now, of all Times, to be in the Hands of truſty, faithful Proteſtants; who will rather forfeit all they have in the World, than return a *Jacobite*. This the Author of the Journal fears; and there the Shoe pinches. A *Jacobite* Mob will have but little Influence over a Proteſtant Sheriff; and the Pretender's Intereſt will ſuffer by it. *Hinc illæ lachrymæ!* He thinks it unreaſonable that the King's Friends, Servants, and Dependents, ſhould have any thing to do with Elections; for by this means, ſays he, the King will have an Influence. I know what this Author would have: only the King's Enemies ſhould be admitted to vote, and then all would be well. Such is the Freedom in Elections, and ſuch the Liberty, which this worthy Gentleman contends for!

In his Advice which he ſo freely gives to Electors, eſpecially thoſe who belong to Burroughs, there is this remarkable Caution, That they ſhould be ſure to reject the Man that bribes them: And that Bribery ought to be one of the greateſt Diſqualifications. I muſt own I wiſh all Elections could be carried on without Bribery: But, for God's ſake, whoſe Fault is it that they cannot? Is it not owing to the Avarice and Corruption of the Voters in theſe Burroughs? who, with a kind of Emulation, contend which ſhall raiſe the Price higheſt, and ſeem reſolv'd to ſell their Votes to the beſt Bidder. Shall the King's Friends, in ſuch a Caſe, be betray'd by their own Honeſty to ſit ſtill and ſee theſe Burroughs bought at an inferior Price by *Jacobites*? No Surely. If the Iniquity of the Times is ſuch, that no Man can have a Seat in Parliament without buying it; it is to the Honour of Proteſtants that they will freely open their

Purſes

Purſes upon ſuch an Occaſion, rather than let the Pretender's Friends get the Power into their Hands; by which, they would ſoon be Maſters of not only the Property but the Lives of thoſe who wiſh well to King *George*. Beſides, were this Bribery ſo very criminal as he would make it, I can't ſee how thoſe who take Bribes can be better repreſented than by thoſe who give them. But all this Clamour points the ſame Way with the reſt of his Calumnies. He fears the Voters are ſo corrupt that they will not chuſe any Man but one that bribes them well: He knows the *Jacobites* are poor, and not able, in point of Wealth, to vie with the Proteſtant Intereſt; and this it is that gives him ſo much Uneaſineſs. He knows they want Money to bribe withal: He knows how bare they are kept, by ſupporting the Pretender's Court abroad, and keeping up their own Faction at home: and would fain have them get a Majority in the Houſe, that they may recruit themſelves with the Spoils of the Nation. But the King's Friends act upon a quite contrary Principle: They have wherewithal, and are ready to ſacrifice it for the preſent, that they may ſecure their King upon his Throne, and their Liberties and Religion inviolable for the future. For my part, were I ſure it depended upon that, I would readily give up, not only my Fortune but my Life, to have a Majority of honeſt Proteſtants return'd; who are well-affected to his Majeſty King *George* and the true Liberty of their Country. Nay, ſo well aſſur'd am I of his Majeſty's Juſtice and Goodneſs, that I had rather he were to be arbitrary and govern without any Parliament at all, than be at the Mercy of a Majority of ſuch as are unqueſtion'd Friends to the Pretender.

Then the fatal *South-Sea Scheme* is a pretty Engine in this Gentleman's Mouth. O, ſays he, have a care you don't chuſe any of thoſe who were for the

the fatal *South-Sea Scheme*. Why all the World knows that the main Projector, as well as the moſt miſchievous Inſtrument by which that Scheme was wrought, is fled from the Hands of Juſtice. Mr. *Knight*, if he was not the chief Author, is at leaſt the Scape-Goat, and has carried away the Sins of thoſe that were, beyond our reach to come at him. And it is wrong to impute that Miſcarriage to any Number of the late Parliament, who were generally deceiv'd in it as well as others, ſince it can only be aſcrib'd to Mr. *Aiſlabie*, Mr. *Craggs*, and thoſe who had the immediate Direction of it. I dare ſay, there were not ten Members of the Houſe of Commons but what were Sufferers by it: And yet this Writer imputes the ill Succeſs of it to them. He knows they were, for the moſt part, the King's Friends, and therefore he brands them with that odious Imputation; and I make no queſtion but all who are well affected to the Proteſtant Intereſt throughout the Nation, will be liable to the ſame Calumny. And therefore I intreat my Countrymen not to give Credit to thoſe who would caſt ſuch Aſperſions upon King *George*'s Friends; for, in all Probability, their being ſo makes them liable to this barbarous Uſage. In truth, what mighty Harm has the *South-Sea Scheme* done, if Things are calmly conſider'd? The Providence of God has hereby puniſh'd ſome particular People for their immoderate Avarice; ſince it was that only which drew them in. The Money has chang'd Hands from one private Perſon to another; the Nation in general is never a whit the poorer; nor were the Country Electors, ſcarce at all, concern'd in the Caſe.

Another Outcry he raiſes is againſt a ſtanding Army. He calls thoſe Forces, which are but juſt ſufficient to keep the *Jacobites* from riſing in Rebellion, a ſtanding Army. He knows how odious

a ſtanding Army was in his dear old Maſter King *James* the Second's Time, and hopes to make King *George* as odious, by talking of it now. But, Friend, you are widely miſtaken; the Caſe is quite alter'd. King *James*'s ſtanding Army was kept up to bring in *Popery*; the Nation maintains a few Forces at preſent to keep it out. Indeed ſo few that, were this *Jacobite*'s Councils to prevail, they would not be a quarter enough to protect us from miſerable Slavery. This is the true State of the Caſe; and I hope every honeſt *Briton* will conſider it. Thoſe Forces, which he calls a ſtanding Army, being well affected to King *George*, are however at preſent as much the Dread of the *Popiſh* Faction, as that of King *James* was their Hopes: and this is the true Reaſon that they are ſo uneaſy upon that Account.

Having given this Author all along a Title which he well deſerves, even that of *Jacobite*, I ſhall proceed to ſhew that he is ſuch, out of his own Writings. I am apprehenſive that to unwary undiſcerning People he may ſeem otherwiſe, by ſetting up for a *Defender of Liberty*, by ſpeaking of *our glorious Deliverer King William*, by mentioning *the Rights of the Subject*, the *Laws of the Land*, *Magna Charta*, *Sam. Johnſon*, and Mr. *Addiſon*; and appealing to their Teſtimony. Theſe I muſt own are a pretty Maſquerade Habit for one of his Principles to walk Incognito in, being ſuch as *Jacobites* and *Tories* were never known to make Uſe of before. But I ſhall ſhew, by and by, where he borrow'd them: and in the mean time will point out three or four Marks by which you may ſee he is juſt as much in the Intereſt of King *George*, as the honeſt Biſhop of *Thetford* was. In N° 4. of his Journals, he takes Oceaſion to uſe the Word *Uſurps*: You may gueſs the Reaſon why he writes that Verb above all others in a different Character, and begins it with a great Letter: For all *Jacobites*, and *Jacobites* only, look upon King *George* as a

Usurper. A little lower the Words *ill Title* are distinguish'd by the same remarkable Character; and, I make no question, in Pursuit of the same ingenious Conceit: as a Reader of any Attention may easily discover. At the latter End of the same Paper, in his Article from St. *James*'s Coffee-House, he gives his Friends this comfortable Piece of News. *The Pretender is very well, the Hurt he receiv'd is not so considerable as it was reported; the Princess his Spouse is pretty far gone with child*, &c. I dare say there is not a Protestant in *Britain* whose Head would have been in the least troubled had the Pretender's Head been broke ten times more than it was; or who will conceive either Hopes or Fears upon the Princess his Spouse's being pretty far gone with as many Children as there are Days in the Year. Why therefore does he entertain the *British* Freeholders with such Intelligence as this? Sure the Wretch does not flatter himself that this will be of Moment to any but forlorn hoping *Jacobites*: for whom I have so much Charity, in respect of their political Views, as to wish they may continue still to hope, in the same forlorn Way.

In his next Article, which is dated from *Button*'s Coffee-House, he discovers himself again: by detracting from the Merit of that excellent Poet and sincere Protestant Mr. *Ambrose Philips*. He says he was *disgusted at him, for having Recourse to Politics for his Entertainment of the Stage*. To write truly and sincerely in Praise of Liberty, and recommending the Love of it as a Virtue, are *Politics which disgust* this Author; and for which (like a true *Jacobite*) he can never forgive Mr. *Philips*. For he has the Impudence presently after this to tell him *in short that his Talent is only Translation; that he is very able to do Justice to a* French *Author; and might oblige the Town, by giving us every Winter a Piece of* Corneille, *or* Racine. The truth of the Matter is, our Author does not like Mr. *Philips*'s

Politics,

Politics, becauſe he is a Lover of Liberty, and dares tell the World ſo. He could bear a Tranſlation from *Corneille* or *Racine* well enough, who by being well acquainted with the Taſte of a *French* Court, and a *French* Audience, had more Manners than to inſpire them with any Notions of *Liberty*, and ſuch kind of *Politics*. I think our Author, by this Treatment of Mr. *Philips*, has ſufficiently let us into the Secret of his own Politics: Since his Rage upon this Occaſion could not forbear repreſenting a Gentleman, as no Poet, who has given us a *Sett of Paſtorals*, as good as ever were written in our Language, and a *Winter Piece* which has not its Equal in that, or any other.

In the laſt Page of N° 2. you may meet with a very pretty Compliment to the King. He ſays, *The Anniverſary of the Birth-Day of her late Majeſty was obſerv'd with the uſual Demonſtrations of Joy, in all Parts of the Town; but particularly in the City, where we daily become more ſenſible of the Bleſſings of her Reign.* No body but a *Jacobite* would have ſaid ſo rude a thing. What Part of the *Queen*'s Reign, I would fain know, were thoſe Bleſſings in, of which he becomes every Day more ſenſible? Not the former Part certainly; for then her Miniſtry conſiſted of People perfectly well-affected to the Proteſtant Succeſſion, who took as much Care to diſcountenance and ſpurn the Pretender's Adherents, as the preſent Miniſtry does; and they don't pleaſe him, I am ſure. Therefore it it muſt be the latter Part which furniſh'd out thoſe Bleſſings he talks of, when *Ormond*, *Bolinbroke*, *Mar*, and thoſe honeſt ſtanch Heroes, had the Direction of her Councils. If theſe are the Bleſſings he means, I agree with him, that he has Reaſon to become more ſenſible of them every day, being of Opinion they are the laſt Bleſſings of that kind he will ever have an Opportunity of enjoying ſo ſenſibly as long as he lives.

But 'tis no wonder that he reckon'd it a bleſſed Time when the late Duke of *Ormond* was the Queen's Manager, ſince he recommends, as a worthy Patriot, and a fit Repreſentative for the Liberty of *Weſtminſter*, one that was Manager and Steward for the late Duke of *Ormond*; even to the very Moment that he went over to the Pretender. So that we ſee his Bleſſings and his Patriots are all of a Piece. Theſe may look like Trifles to cold and indifferent Readers, but muſt needs alarm all thoſe that love their King and Country, when they ſee a bold diſguis'd *Jacobite* affronting the one, and intermeddling with the Liberties of the other. Who but a *Jacobite* would cavil at the Suſpenſion of the *Habeas Corpus* Act? for all the Uſe that was made of it was to take up *Jacobites*. Who but a *Jacobite* would find Fault with the *Riot* Act? deſign'd only to ſuppreſs *Jacobite* Mobs.

Trace him in his Coffee-houſes, and even there he can't conceal himſelf. He talks like a *Jacobite* from St. *James*'s, and *Button*'s; and would have us think thoſe have any Concern for Liberty, (except that of oppoſing the Government) who frequent the *Chapter*, the *Rainbow*, and *Will*'s. Was ever any thing ſo prepoſterous? But I am almoſt tir'd and jaded with following this Writer through ſo dirty and diſagreeable a Track; ſo I ſhall conclude, with giving my honeſt Countrymen two Inſtances where he has written Treaſon, and one where he has told (without any Recantation) a moſt notorious wicked Lie.

In the firſt Page of N° 6. he has theſe Words (which are Part of the Letter from *Philo Britannicus*) *I think the Time is now come, when* BRITONS *muſt ſpeak out, or we for ever after may hold our Peace*. What would the Wretch intimate here? that we are in Danger under his Majeſty's Government? Yes, that is what he would inſinuate to others; But what he muſt mean is, that the *Jacobite*

bite Crisis is now come; and that the Pretender's Friends must exert themselves now or never. But you, my Fellow BRITONS, who have a true and sincere Regard for your Liberties, your Properties, and the Church of *England*, learn this Advice from an Enemy, and remember that the Time is now come, when you may give a fatal Stroak to the *Jacobites*, and the *Popish* Faction, by voting for honest true Protestants, who love King *George*; and consequently are the fittest Persons to be Guardians of the Liberties of their Country.

His other Piece of Treason is in the next Column, where he begins a Paragraph with this Sentence. *Amongst the many Attempts upon our happy Constitution, surely nothing ever came up to what we at present see.* Why surely something has come up to it. What, not the Misfortunes brought upon the Nation by * *Richard* the 2d, by Queen *Mary*, and *Oliver Cromwell* the Usurper? Then our Case is hard indeed. I thought those Parallels would have contented you. But let us inquire, what are these Attempts? Why, *general and strong Endeavours throughout the whole Kingdom to corrupt by all kinds of Bribery.* What of all that? *Why People thus chosen will stick at nothing, for a proper Price, which can be propos'd to them; whether to make the ensuing Parliament* perpetual, *or even to* abolish *Parliaments for the future.* Hark thee Friend! dost think they will be in the Pretender's Interest? No, you don't suggest any thing like that. Why then, to tell you my Mind freely, once for all, I had rather have such a Parliament, (get in how they can) than one that would be in the Interest of the Pretender, tho' chosen in the fairest way you can devise.

I have now only your wicked malicious Lye to touch upon, and so shall dispatch you. In your Paper, N° 4. you give us this worthy Account from the *Chapter* Coffee-house. *His Grace the Arch-Bishop of* Dublin *has refus'd to consecrate Mr.*

* *Freehold Journ.* N° 4.

Josiah

Josiah Hort, *appointed Lord Bishop of* Leighlin *and* Fernes, *because that the said* Josiah Hort, *who was formerly a Dissenting Teacher, has not since his seeming Conformity receiv'd Episcopal Orders. The Arch-Bishops of* Armagh, Dublin, *and* Tuam, *have join'd in a Petition to his Majesty, Praying him to revoke Mr.* Hort's *Nomination.* I have very good Authority, in the first Place, to say, that Mr. *Hort* never was a Dissenting Teacher. He went through a University Education at *Christ's Church* in *Oxford*, of which Place he was a Member for the Space of eight Years; after which he was Episcopally ordain'd. And, in the next Place, I deny that the Arch-Bishop of *Dublin* refus'd to consecrate him upon any such Pretence as is alledg'd; but do affirm that he did consecrate him, and that he is now Lord Bishop of *Leighlin* and *Fernes*. And pray now Sir, what do you mean by publishing so infamous an Untruth? From which of the Clergy at the *Chapter* Coffee-house had you it? Why do you insinuate to the World, that the King nominates such People to Bishopricks? Wast thou not afraid to lift up thy Hand against the Lord's anointed? No: you are not contented to represent this injur'd Prelate, as a Person unordain'd, but tell us his Conformity was only seeming. I see through your wicked Artifice; you paint him in these disadvantageous Colours, that his Majesty may become odious in the Eyes of his People, for appointing such Persons. But I think, after so horrid a Misrepresentation as this, your Friends the *Jacobites* can't believe you; much less any honest unprejudic'd Protestant.

As this Author has all along us'd a Masque and a Disguise, by pretending to be an Advocate for Liberty, *&c.* which, being a Habit the *Jacobites* are utterly unacquainted with, I promis'd to tell you where this Spark borrow'd it; you must know he had it from the Author of the *London Journal*; a

Rene-

Renegado Proteſtant; one who is thoroughly vers'd in all the Claims which Liberty has to make, but never to be forgiven for urging thoſe Claims at ſo unſeaſonable a Time, and lending his Artillery to ſuch dangerous Enemies, as the *Jacobites*. This is like *ſeething the Kid with its Mother's Milk*; and overlaying the Conſtitution with that Liberty, which ſhould only preſerve and cheriſh it.

Hic primum, ex alto delubri culmine, telis
Noſtrorum obruimur.——————— Virg.

But, whether it is a Diſcontent ariſing from ſome Diſappointment in private Views; or a blind Revenge vow'd againſt ſome great Man in Power; I ſhall not take upon me, either to inquire, or determin. All that I ſhall do is, to obſerve to my Fellow-Countrymen, that this Writer alſo has all along been ſubſervient to the Cauſe of Popery; and even ſo far actually join'd with them, as to make Uſe of ſome of their unchriſtian, nay, inhuman Maxims. Or elſe, how could he pretend to juſtify the Murder of *Julius Cæſar*; who had been recogniz'd and confirm'd by a vaſt Majority of the Senate and the *Roman* People? O, but, ſays he, *Brutus* and *Caſſius* and the reſt of the Conſpirators, had never own'd him in their Hearts. Juſt what the *Jacobites* ſay of King *George*; and juſt as the *Jeſuites* argue, when they would murder a Prince whom they don't like. I would fain know what Reaſon the *London* Journaliſt had, for advancing ſuch a pretty piece of Doctrine at preſent. A Poſition truly worthy of none but a ſecond *Ravillac*! But, 'tis no wonder that he who lends ſo many Arguments to the *Popiſh* Faction, ſhould borrow one at leaſt from them. They are *Fratres conjurati*, ſworn Brethren in the preſent Expedition; and it is not ſtrange to ſee them lend a helping Hand to each other.

Therefore, my beloved Countrymen and Fellow-Proteſtants, ſtand upon your Guard and behave your ſelves like Men! Whatever Pamphlets, whatever

Papers

Papers of any ſort come into your Hands, which are written with a Deſign to leſſen your good Opinion of King *George* or his Miniſtry, you may be aſſur'd they are cook'd up and contriv'd by ſome of the Pretender's Friends, to ſerve his Intereſt, and to weaken the Proteſtant Cauſe. They cry, Now the Time is come! Now or never the Buſineſs is to be done! This they look upon as the laſt Puſh they ſhall be ever able to make againſt our Liberties. And ſhall not this Trumpet which they ſound for the Deſtruction of our Liberties, alarm us into a juſt and reaſonable Defence of them! Sure I am that ſuch a Vigilance is neceſſary: Nor do I think any honeſt Proteſtant can clear his Conſcience, till he has laid his Hand upon his Heart, and declar'd to himſelf, That he will do, at this Juncture, all that lies in his Power, to ſupport the King and his Friends againſt any Combinations which *Jacobites* or other diſaffected Perſons are forming againſt them.

As for me, I make no Queſtion but the Mouth of the Faction will be open'd wide againſt me for theſe Cautions, which I have ſo earneſtly and ſo ſincerely deliver'd. But I know their Malice; and defy all ſuch paltry Obſtacles, when any little Part of the Intereſt of my Country lies at Stake. I declare, before God, it was that and no other Motive which engag'd my Pen upon this Occaſion. The Dictates of my own Heart only are what employ my Endeavours at ſuch Times as this; And I look for no other Recompence, than that inward Satisfaction of Mind which muſt always attend the Man who exerts himſelf in the Defence of his own and his Country's Liberty.

N. B. *I never ſaw the Firſt and Third of the* Freeholder's *Journals: They were quite bought up by the Party, when I attempted to get them: Being written (I ſuppoſe) in a Strain which pleas'd his Friends more than ordinary.*

F I N I S.